



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5

230 SOUTH DEARBORN ST.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604

JUL 18 1990

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

5CS-TUB-3

Ms. Bonnie Fine Kaufman
Wilkie-Farr & Gallagher
Three Lafayette Centre
1155 21st Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20036-3302

Dear Bonnie:

This letter is in response to your letter of June 15, 1990, which offers, on behalf of NL Industries and unidentified other potentially responsible parties (PRP's) at the NL/Taracorp Site in Granite City, Illinois (the Site), to conduct a blood lead study of residents in the vicinity of the Site. U.S. EPA declines your offer, but is happy to consider recommendations you may have on conducting the study.

As stated in the March 30, 1990, Record of Decision (ROD), the performance of blood lead sampling is to provide the community with data on current personal exposures and possible health effects associated with site contamination. The ROD indicates that this purpose may be fulfilled by conducting the study on a representative sample of residents near the Site.

Among the reasons U.S. EPA plans to conduct the study without the assistance of PRP's is the need to protect the confidentiality of residents who participate in the study and the need to provide residents with information from the study at the earliest possible time. U.S. EPA also believes the integrity and public perception of the study will be protected if the study is not conducted by private parties with a financial interest in the cleanup of the Site.

Please call me at (312) 353-1129 with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Steven Siegel".

Steven Siegel
Assistant Regional Counsel

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



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